

EXHIBIT A

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY
TO PROSECUTE APPLICATIONS BEFORE
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Assignee Name and Address: NGK Insulators, Ltd.
2-56, Suda-cho, Mizuho-ku, Nagoya-city
Aichi-prefecture, 467-8530 Japan

appoints the patent practitioners associated with Oliff & Berridge, PLC Customer
Number 25944 to represent it before the United States Patent and Trademark Office in
connection with any and all U.S. patent applications assigned to the above-named assignee.

The undersigned is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION SHOULD
BE SENT TO OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC, CUSTOMER NO. 25944, TELEPHONE
(703) 836-6400.**

October 28, 2004
Date

Takafumi Hochi
Signature

Typed Name: Takafumi Hochi

Title: General Manager, Legal Affairs &
Intellectual Property Department

848182101

Application No.

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Group Art Unit:

Application No.: New U.S. National Stage of
PCT/JP2004/018287

Examiner:

Filed:

Docket No.:

For: PLASMA GENERATING ELECTRODE, ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD, AND PLASMA REACTOR

SPECIFIC POWER OF ATTORNEY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD., ☐ owner or ☒ co-owner of the entire right, title and
interest in the above patent application by virtue of:

- a. ☐ being an inventor, or
b. ☒ an Assignment
 i. ☒ copy attached, or
 ii. ☐ recorded at Reel _____, Frame _____ of the Patent Office microfilm records),

hereby appoints the patent practitioners associated with Oliff & Berridge, PLC Customer
No. 25944 as attorneys of record to prosecute this application and all continuations and
divisions thereof, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office.

The undersigned has reviewed the chain of title and confirms that the aforesaid title is
in the owner. The undersigned is authorized to execute this document as or on behalf of the
owner.

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS APPLICATION
SHOULD BE SENT TO OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC, CUSTOMER NO. 25944,
TELEPHONE (703) 836-6400.**

26 MAY '06
Date

Motoatsu Shiraishi
Signature

Typed Name: Motoatsu SHIRAISHI

Title: Senior Managing and
Representative Director
(if acting on behalf of an Owner)